

A PARTIAL LIST OF THE SUMMER BIRDS OF
HOLDERNESS, NEW HAMPSHIRE.

BY ARTHUR C. COMEY.

The town of Holderness lies on the west shore of Squam Lake (or Lake Asquam), in almost the geographical center of the state of New Hampshire. It is divided naturally by the Squam Range and Little Squam Lake into three sections. I made the following observations in the area between the ridge of the Squam Range (elevation 2100 ft.) and Squam Lake (elevation 510 ft.), with my headquarters at Camp Algonquin, on the shore of the lake. Notes were taken during the months of July and August, 1899, 1900, 1901, and 1903, but chiefly in the latter season, which also included the last five days of June and the first four days of September.

The shores of the lake are for the most part quite low, but rocky, with occasional narrow sand-beaches, and are covered with rather young woods of mixed growth, with here and there a grove of pine or hemlock. Nearly all of the farm-houses are situated on the "old road," which in most places is about a half-mile from the lake. Between these and the new road, not far from the shore, there are overgrown pastures and maple groves, with open fields near the houses. Back from the old road are mountain pastures and birch woods, stretching up to the almost bare top of Squam Range, about a mile away. Most of the marsh-birds were seen at Bennett's Creek, which meanders through a meadow into Bennett's Cove. Several years ago the dam at the outlet of Squam Lake was raised so that the lower end of this little plain was inundated and a little lagoon was formed, with a sand-beach along the shore. According to Mr. Faxon, in the introduction to his Holderness list (*The Auk*, Vol. V., p. 149), the locality lies "near the border of the Alleghanian and Canadian Avifaunæ, although decidedly Alleghanian in its general character."

The list includes six species recorded as migrants only, and eighty-seven summer residents. The sixty-five species recorded by Mr. Faxon (June 4-12, 1885, and June 4-11, 1886) are starred.

- * 1. *Gavia imber*. Loon. Rather common, chiefly in the northern part of the lake.
2. *Aix sponsa*. Wood Duck. Rare. One record, a female at Hoag Island, July 18, 1903.
3. *Botaurus lentiginosus*. Bittern. Local: found at Bennett's Creek only.
4. *Ardea herodias*. Great Blue Heron. Rare; recorded as a migrant only. One record, one at Camp Algonquin, August 23, 1903.
5. *Butorides virescens*. Green Heron. Local: found at Bennett's Creek only.
6. *Nycticorax nycticorax navius*. Black-crowned Night Heron. Locally rather common.
7. *Helodromas solitarius*. Solitary Sandpiper. Uncommon migrant. In 1903, a pair at Bennett's Creek, August 9 and 10.
- * 8. *Actitis macularia*. Spotted Sandpiper. Common.
- * 9. *Bonasa umbellus*. Ruffed Grouse. Quite common, but rare in 1903, owing to the cold spring, which killed nearly all the young.
10. *Accipiter cooperii*. Cooper's Hawk. Rare migrant. One record two on Squam Ridge, August 24, 1903.
- * 11. *Buteo borealis*. Red-tailed Hawk. Rare; recorded as a migrant only. One record, one on Rattlesnake Mountains, August 28, 1903.
12. *Buteo lineatus*. Red-shouldered Hawk. Uncommon.
- * 13. *Haliaeetus leucocephalus*. Bald Eagle. Rare. In 1903, found about Rattlesnake Cove only.
14. *Falco sparverius*. Sparrow Hawk. Rare. Two records in 1903.
15. *Coccyzus americanus*. Yellow-billed Cuckoo. Uncommon.
- * 16. *Coccyzus erythrophthalmus*. Black-billed Cuckoo. Rather common.
- * 17. *Ceryle alcyon*. Belted Kingfisher. Common.
- * 18. *Dryobates villosus*. Hairy Woodpecker. Not common.
19. *Dryobates pubescens medianus*. Downy Woodpecker. Common.
20. *Sphyrapicus varius*. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker. Uncommon. Not found below 1000 ft. elevation.
- * 21. *Geophloxus pileatus abieticola*. Northern Pileated Woodpecker. Rare. Two records in 1900.
- * 22. *Colaptes auratus luteus*. Northern Flicker. Rather common.
- * 23. *Antrostomus vociferus*. Whip-poor-will. Quite common.
- * 24. *Chordeiles virginianus*. Nighthawk. Rather common. On August 28, 1903, at 11 A. M., I saw a flock of 100 or more between the two summits of Rattlesnake Mountains, circling about and slowly moving southward, very close to the ground.
- * 25. *Chætura pelagica*. Chimney Swift. Very common, but not seen the last two or three weeks.
26. *Trochilus colubris*. Ruby-throated Hummingbird. Uncommon.
- * 27. *Tyrannus tyrannus*. Kingbird. Abundant.
- * 28. *Myiarchus crinitus*. Crested Flycatcher. Rather common.
- * 29. *Sayornis phœbe*. Phœbe. Very common.

30. *Nuttallornis borealis*. Olive-sided Flycatcher. Rare migrant. One record, two at Camp Algonquin, August 26, 1903.
- *31. *Contopus virens*. Wood Pewee. Abundant.
- *32. *Empidonax minimus*. Least Flycatcher. Quite common.
- *33. *Cyanocitta cristata*. Blue Jay. Quite common.
- *34. *Corvus americanus*. American Crow. Common.
- *35. *Dolichonyx oryzivorus*. Bobolink. Rather common summer resident. Quite common in August.
36. *Molothrus ater*. Cowbird. Rare; recorded in 1900 only.
- *37. *Agelaius phoeniceus*. Red-winged Blackbird. Rather common.
- *38. *Icterus galbula*. Baltimore Oriole. Rather common. In 1903, last seen August 13.
39. *Quiscalus quiscula æneus*. Bronzed Grackle. Locally common.
- *40. *Carpodacus purpureus*. Purple Finch. Rather common summer resident. Common in August.
- *41. *Astragalinus tristis*. American Goldfinch. Abundant.
- *42. *Poœetes gramineus*. Vesper Sparrow. Common.
- *43. *Passerculus sandwichensis savanna*. Savanna Sparrow. Local; common at Bennett's Creek.
- *44. *Zonotrichia albicollis*. White-throated Sparrow. Uncommon; found on the Squam Range (elevation 2000 ft.). Also one singing bird, not 100 ft. above the lake, July 30, 1903.
- *45. *Spizella socialis*. Chipping Sparrow. Common.
- *46. *Spizella pusilla*. Field Sparrow. Abundant.
- *47. *Junco hyemalis*. Junco. Common above 1000 ft. elevation. Not found below 700 ft.
- *48. *Melospiza cinerea melodia*. Song Sparrow. Common, especially along the shores of the lake.
- *49. *Melospiza georgiana*. Swamp Sparrow. Local. Probably regular at Rattlesnake Cove, where a singing bird was found, July 17, 1903.
- *50. *Pipilo erythrophthalmus*. Towhee. Common in second growth woods, but not in overgrown pastures.
- *51. *Zamelodia ludoviciana*. Rose-breasted Grosbeak. Uncommon summer resident. Common in August.
- *52. *Cyanospiza cyanea*. Indigo Bunting. Abundant.
- *53. *Piranga erythromelas*. Scarlet Tanager. Common.
- *54. *Progne subis*. Purple Martin. Uncommon.
- *55. *Petrochelidon lunifrons*. Cliff Swallow. Uncommon. In 1903, last seen August 12.
- *56. *Hirundo erythrogaster*. Barn Swallow. Abundant.
- *57. *Iridoprocne bicolor*. Tree Swallow. Common the first three weeks of July.
58. *Riparia riparia*. Bank Swallow. Rather common. Not seen after July 20.
- *59. *Ampelis cedrorum*. Cedar Waxwing. Abundant.
- *60. *Vireo olivaceus*. Red-eyed Vireo. Abundant. One nest had two young birds about five days old, August 1, 1903.
- *61. *Vireo gilvus*. Warbling Vireo. Rare; recorded in 1900 only.

62. *Vireo flavifrons*. Yellow-throated Vireo. Rare.
63. *Vireo solitarius*. Blue-headed or Solitary Vireo. Uncommon.
- *64. *Mniotilta varia*. Black and White Warbler. Uncommon.
- *65. *Helminthophila rubricapilla*. Nashville Warbler. Uncommon.
- *66. *Compothlypis americana usneæ*. Northern Parula Warbler.
- Local: Common at Hoag Island, July 18, 1903.
- *67. *Dendroica æstiva*. Yellow Warbler. Uncommon.
- *68. *Dendroica cærulescens*. Black-throated Blue Warbler. Rare.
69. *Dendroica coronata*. Myrtle Warbler. In July, one recorded at 700 ft elevation. Common at Hoag Island on July 18, 1903. In 1903, after August 6, a very common migrant.
70. *Dendroica maculosa*. Magnolia Warbler. Uncommon migrant. First seen, August 12, 1903.
- *71. *Dendroica pensylvanica*. Chestnut-sided Warbler. Quite common.
72. *Dendroica striata*. Black-poll Warbler. Rare: recorded in 1900 only.
- *73. *Dendroica blackburniæ*. Blackburnian Warbler. Rare summer resident. In 1903, after August 6, a rather common migrant.
- *74. *Dendroica virens*. Black-throated Green Warbler. Quite common.
75. *Dendroica vigersiï*. Pine Warbler. Common in all red pine groves.
- *76. *Seiurus aurocapillus*. Oven-bird. Common.
- *77. *Seiurus noveboracensis*. Water-Thrush. Rare. In July, one record, one at Hoag Island, July 18, 1903. In 1903, the only migrant was seen at Camp Algonquin, August 9.
- *78. *Geothlypis trichas brachidactyla*. Northern Yellow-throat. Common.
- *79. *Wilsonia canadensis*. Canadian Warbler. Rare migrant. On record, one at Camp Algonquin, August 23, 1903.
- *80. *Setophaga ruticilla*. American Redstart. Abundant.
- *81. *Galeoscoptes carolinensis*. Catbird. Common.
- *82. *Taxostoma rufum*. Brown Thrasher. Common.
83. *Troglodytes aedon*. House Wren. Rather common.
84. *Certhia familiaris americana*. Brown Creeper. Uncommon on the Squam Range. Not found below 1500 ft.
85. *Sitta carolinensis*. White-breasted Nuthatch. Rather common.
86. *Sitta canadensis*. Red-breasted Nuthatch. Rather common summer resident. In August, common migrant in the flocks of Warblers.
- *87. *Parus atricapillus*. Chickadee. Abundant.
88. *Regulus satrapa*. Golden-crowned Kinglet. Rather common above 1500 ft. elevation. Not found below 700 ft.
89. *Regulus calendula*. Ruby-crowned Kinglet. Rare. One record, one on Squam Range (elevation 1800 ft.), July 15, 1903.
- *90. *Hylocichla fuscescens*. Wilson's Thrush or Veery. Abundant, but became uncommon towards the end of August.
- *91. *Hylocichla guttata pallasii*. Hermit Thrush. Common.

*92. *Merula migratoria*. Robin. Quite common. Rather common on the bare top of Squam Range.

*93. *Sialia sialis*. Bluebird. Common.

94. *Passer domesticus*. English Sparrow. A few around some of the farm houses.

THE LARKS OF GERMANY.

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Characteristic of the Larks is the bill, longer than that of the finches and buntings, longer and broader wings, and the earth-colored plumage, commonly called "lark gray." Only three species are ordinarily found in Germany, the others being little more than mere stragglers. Largest of these is the Crested or Tufted Lark, easily recognized by its conspicuous crest, then the far-famed Skylark, well known to all, and the smallest, the Woodlark, distinguished from the others by its size and the white wing-bands or spots.

A little home-body is the Tufted Lark. The dusty roadside, fence-posts, deserted wagons and ploughs, stone walls, and roofs are her home, where we can listen to her low, but not uninteresting song, or see her skipping through the air with lispings notes or running to and fro with raised hood, as she snatches up an insect or a grain. Having entered Germany but lately, she has become familiar in many a region. She loves the slopes of the mountains, the grain-fields, and is more common in sandy places than her cousins. There she makes her nest on the ground in the fields, meadows and gardens; four to six eggs it holds, white or cream-colored, with gray and brownish spots. Both parents brood and take care of the young in turn, looking for their food. Even winter's chills do not drive them away. They run ahead of us in the streets with Yellowhammers and Sparrows, or visit our back yards and barns to look for offal, dungheaps, spilled grain and similar tid-bits, being very tame and modest, easily contented at all times, liked by young and old for their confidence in man, till spring comes and the humble creature is forgotten for her more brilliantly singing relatives.

In golden splendor the morning sun appears on the eastern horizon, still tinted with the rosy hue of early dawn, like mil-